



Miller-Long House 813 Park Blvd.

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Austin, Texas 78751

View of Main House and Garag



Miller-Long House 813 Park Blvd. Austin, Texas 78751 North Elevation of Main House

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Miller-Long House 813 Park Blvd. Austin, Texas 78751 Garage north façade mimics east elevation of Main House

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Miller-Long House

2

D-11/34

813 Park Blvd. Austin, Texas 78751 Original Garage Doors



June 8, 2021

Board of Adjustment 301 W. 2nd Street Austin, Texas 78701

RE: Variance Request for 813 Park Blvd.

Dear Members,

D-11/36

Please accept this letter in support of the owner's request for a variance in order to rehabilitate an existing two-story historic garage structure.

The Miller-Long House and Garage at 813 Park Blvd have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places by the Texas Historical Commission and the National Park Service. Recognition in the areas of Politics and Government and Architecture further emphasizes its significance to the city.

The main residence and garage were built in 1929 for Tom Miller, a longtime mayor and influential citizen of Austin at a time of transformative growth and development in the city. Lady Bird Johnson once said of him, "Tom Miller dominated the city scene for such a long time. He had a passionate love of Austin, and it was also a proprietary love. He just felt like it was *his* town. He wanted to everything for it. It was his life."

Emma Long, another formidable Austin politician, owned and lived in the home some years later. Long became the first woman elected to the Austin city council or any major city council in Texas. She was a strong advocate for desegregation, fought against inequities in the delivery of city services and was an advocate for fair housing for blacks and Latinos. The property has been unoccupied since the late 1980s, and is in need of restoration.

The home's massing and detailing are representative of the Tudor Revival style, with a steeply pitched frontfacing gable with wing, a smaller gable nested within the larger one, shed dormers, arched detailing, and distinctive patterned brickwork. The material pallet includes variegated brick, stucco, steel casement windows and Tudor-styled entry doors. The original garage is architecturally and visually tied to the house. Making major alterations or removing the garage from the property would be akin to tearing a limb from a century old tree. The loss of historic fabric cannot be replaced and would leave a scar on the landscape of the neighborhood.

The garage has 575 SF per floor, totaling 1,150 SF. The first floor was originally a 2-car garage with a cement floor. The second floor was originally a small apartment. We propose in this project to rehabilitate the first and second floor to create a second dwelling unit. Though legal at the time it was constructed, both floors exceed the allowable area for new construction of a second dwelling, and the project has been tagged as non-compliant. This application seeks a variance to allow the second dwelling in the original garage to proceed. There will be no impact to impervious cover or massing with this design. The project has received sign-off from the City Historic Preservation Office.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about the project. Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Best Regards,

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Tere O'Connell, AIA Principal

D-11/37



P.O., Box 12276 Austin, Texas 78711-2276 512-463-6100 thc.texas.gov

April 29, 2021

Chris Oakland Xinesi Holdings, LLC P.O. Box 6222 Austin, TX 78762

PROPERTY: Miller-Long House, Austin, Travis County PROJECT NUMBER: THPTC-0632-20-102 APPLICATION: Part A DECISION: Building Certified Historic—Designation Required

Dear Mr. Oakland,

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) has reviewed your Texas Historic Preservation Tax Credit (THPTC) Application, Part A: Evaluation of Significance, for the above-named property, which corresponds with Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credit project #42596. This letter represents the official determination of the Executive Director of the THC. Our agency has received notification of the National Park Service's approval of your Part 1 application as of March 5, 2021, and as such, has determined that the property listed above is a certified historic structure for the purposes of the THPTC program.

Important: it is your responsibility to pursue official designation for this property through listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The building must be designated at the time the tax credit is claimed. Please contact National Register Coordinator Gregory Smith (greg.smith@thc.texas.gov) to begin the formal designation process if you have not done so already. When designation has been completed, our office requires a new Part A form to document the successful designation of the building.

Congratulations on completing the first part of your tax credit application. If you have not done so already, the next step in the application process is submission of the Part B – Description of Rehabilitation. Note that the Part B should be submitted as early as possible in the course of the project. Our reviewers are available to consult with you on your planned work to ensure compliance with program requirements and the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Thank you for your interest in the cultural heritage of Texas, and we look forward to continued work with you on this project. If you have any questions concerning our review of the Part A application, please contact Greg Smith at greg.smith@thc.texas.gov, or at 512-463-6013. If we can be of assistance regarding further steps in the application process or to communicate with your tax credit project reviewer, please contact Caroline Wright at caroline.wright@thc.texas.gov, or at 512-463-7687.

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Sincerely,

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Bess Althaus Graham, AIA, LEED AP BD+C Director, Deputy SHPO, Division of Architecture Texas Historical Commission

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Texas Historic Preservation Tax Credit Application Part A: Evaluation of Significance

Read instructions carefully before completing application. No certification will be made unless a completed, signed application form has been received. Type or print clearly in black ink. If additional space is needed, attach blank sheets. Please submit only **one** copy of this application and supporting materials. Please do not use spiral binding, binders or folders to submit your application. You may submit your application in person, via courier service or U.S. Mail. E-mailed or faxed applications will not be accepted. **Note:** If you wish to participate in the Federal program, you <u>must</u> submit the appropriate Federal application(s) to the THC. Visit <u>www.nps.gov/tps</u> to download applications.

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Please Check One: OState and Federal Application

O State Only Application

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Received

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Division of Architecture

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Property Name: Miller-Long House
Property Address: 813 Park Blvd.

Street

| | City | County | Zip Code |
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| Historic Designation (select all that apply) | | San Inter | |
| Individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places Individually listed as a Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Individually listed as a State Antiquities Landmark | Contributing resou Contributing resou Name of district: | | |
| ✓ This is a preliminary request for individual determination of eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places | This is a preliminat Period of Significat | ry request for a proper nce of an existing distr | ty outside the Area or ict |

| Applicant | | | Project Contact | Project Contact | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------|--|-----------------|-----------|--|
| Name Chris Oakland | | Name Tere O'Conne | Name Tere O'Connell, AIA | | | |
| Organization Xinesi Holdings, LLC | | Organization O'Cor | Organization O'Connell Architecture, LLC | | | |
| Address P.O. Box 6222 | | Address 3908 Avenu | Address 3908 Avenue B., Room 309 | | | |
| City Austin | State TX | Zip 78762 | City Austin | State TX | Zip 78751 | |
| Telephone 646-247-0666 | | Telephone 512-751- | Telephone 512-751-1374 | | | |
| Property Owner 1 | | Property Owner 2 | Property Owner 2 | | | |
| Name Chris Oakland | | Name | Name | | | |
| Organization Xinesi Holdings, LLC | | Organization | Organization | | | |
| Address P.O. Box 6222 | | Address | Address | | | |
| City Austin | State TX | Zip 78762 | City | State | Zip | |
| Telephone 5127511374 | | | Telephone | Email | | |

THC Official Use Only

ТНРТС - _____ - ____

The Texas Historical Commission has reviewed Part A for the above-named property and has determined that the property:

- is currently listed individually on the National Register, or as a State Antiquities Landmark or Recorded Texas Historic Landmark. Date of listing _______ Name as listed ______
- contributes to the significance of a district or functionally-related complex listed in the National Register.
 Date of listing
 Name as listed
- does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district or property.

Preliminary determinations of eligibility:

- appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation or criteria for approval as a SAL or RTHL, and will likely be listed as such if nominated according to official procedures.
- does not appear to meet the criteria for individual listing in the National Register or as a SAL or RTHL.
- appears to contribute to the significance of a potential historic district, which will likely be listed if duly nominated.
- appears to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district if the period or area of significance as currently documented in NPS/THC records is expanded.
- does not appear to qualify as a certified historic structure.
- □ cannot be evalua[™] because insufficient information has been provided.

Texas Historical Commission Authorized Signature

4-24-2021

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